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Interagency News Release

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Additional Fire Restrictions Implemented in Grand Teton National Park

Teton interagency fire managers announce that further fire restrictions will be in effect starting tomorrow, Thursday, July 12 in Grand Teton National Park. These restrictions are in addition to the partial fire restrictions which were implemented on July 3 for Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger Teton National Forest. Fire officials determined the need to implement these newest restrictions for emergency fire prevention due to the extremely dry vegetation, persistent long-term drought, forecasts for continued hot and dry weather, and the high demand for local and national firefighting resources throughout Wyoming and the western United States.

The following additional fire restrictions for Grand Teton will begin on Thursday, July 12:

- Lighting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire is specifically **prohibited** at all backcountry campsites on Jackson Lake, Leigh Lake, Bearpaw Lake, Trapper Lake, and Spalding Bay, as well as at the Colter Bay swim beach and String Lake picnic area.
- Campfires are **only allowed** in an established fire grates at Lizard Creek, Colter Bay, Signal Mountain, Jenny Lake, Gros Ventre and Flagg Ranch campgrounds and the Colter Bay RV Park.

All campfires must be completely extinguished and cold to the touch before campers depart their site.

Partial fire restrictions implemented on July 3 are still in effect in the park and on forest lands. These include:

- Lighting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, barbecue or grill is allowed **only** at designated recreation sites such as established campgrounds or picnic areas, unless otherwise prohibited (see above restrictions for Grand Teton National Park). Use of portable stoves and lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel, or use of a fully enclosed sheepherder type stove with a spark arrester screen is permitted.
- Smoking is allowed **only** in an enclosed vehicle, building (unless otherwise prohibited), developed recreation site, or while in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials (i.e. parking lots, developed campsites, or locations surrounded by water).
- Operating a chainsaw in national parks is prohibited. Operating a chainsaw on national forests is permitted **only** when equipped with a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester that is properly installed and in effective working order. Operators must also carry a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.
- Discharge of fireworks and use of explosives requiring blasting caps are prohibited.

Unattended or abandoned campfires can quickly escalate into wildfires, and it is extremely important that all campfires are completely extinguished and cold to the touch before campers leave their site. Visitors should **never** leave a fire unattended, and should prepare for the unexpected by having a water bucket and shovel on hand and ready to use.

To report a fire or smoke in either area, call 307.739.3630. For more information, please visit www.tetonfires.com.